The Cheapside Hoard







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The Story of a Treasure Lost and Found

Dates

- Late 16th to early 17th century: jeweler buried a collection of jewels in Cheapside.
- 1912: workmen excavating on Friday Street find a wooden box containing more than 400 jewels.
- 1914: the collection was first exhibited at the London Museum in Kensington.
- 1975: Guildhall Museum and London Museum merged to form Museum of London.
- 2013-2014: entire "Hoard" displayed at the Museum of London

Key Players

- Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, which received a Royal Charter in 1352, owned row of houses in Cheapside.
- "Stoney Jack," nickname for the antiques dealer and pawnshop owner George Fabian Lawrence.
- Lewis Vernon Harcourt, first Viscount Harcourt, wealthy funder.
- London Museum, major holder of pieces from the collection.
- British Museum, Guildhall Museum, Victoria and Albert Museum, holders of small parts of collection.

Fun Facts

- The collection contained about 500 pieces.
- Little jewelry survives from the 16th and 17th century.
- The collection contains a gold watch, a large pearl pendant, a carved cameo that might be Cleopatry, a small bottle, and the famous salamander brooch.
- The collection is evidence of widespread international trade.



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